

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant(s): | Christy Cummins et al. |
| Application No: | Not Yet Assigned |
| Filing Date: | Herewith |
| Entitled: | SURGICAL STAPLING DEVICE |
| Atty. Docket No: | 22762-15 |

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Attention Mail Stop PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT WITH REMARKS

Dear Sir:

Applicants request entry of the following amendments prior to examining the above-referenced patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.